GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3692
ANSWERED ON:22.12.2015
Fire Act
Patel Smt. Jayshreeben

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the existing Fire Act, the malls, hospitals and other public places are required to arrange for their own fire officers;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the progress made in this regard, so far; and

(c) the policy/guidelines formulated by the Government for providing training to fire officers and monitoring their work?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI KIREN RIJIJU)

(a) to (c): The Fire Services have been included as a Municipal function in the XIIth Schedule of the Constitution of India and as such, it is the primary responsibility of the State Government to raise and equip the fire services and train fire personnel in their jurisdiction and enforce their Fire Safety Acts. The Fire safety of malls, hospitals and other public places is regulated under the rules prescribed by the State Governments or local authorities.

The Directorate General (Fire Service, Civil Defence & Home Guards), Ministry of Home Affairs, plays an advisory role through the Standing Fire Advisory Council (SFAC). The SFAC have laid down norms for establishment of Fire Stations, Equipment, Manpower and Fire tenders/ Vehicles etc. These norms recommended by SFAC are advisory in nature. The National Building Code of India, published by Bureau of Indian Standards, also covers the detailed guidelines for construction, maintenance and fire safety of the buildings. It is a recommendatory document. The implementation and enforcement of these Standard Codes and guidelines is purely the responsibility of State/UT Governments.
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-2-

L.S.US.Q.NO.3692 FOR 22.12.2015

The National Disaster Management Authority has also issued guidelines during April, 2012 with the objective of standardizing scaling/ type of equipment and training of man power to modernize and improve fire fighting capabilities in the country.

National Fire Service College (NFSC), Nagpur, established in 1956, is conducting Sub-Officers', Station Officers & Divisional Officers' course along with other specialized courses for the Fire Service Personnel from State/Union Territories/ Central Ministries/Public Sector Undertakings beside inducting fresher's from open market in Sub-Officers' Course. The NFSC has trained more than 17000 fire service personnel. To cope up with the growing demand, 10 Regional Training Centres have been identified for conducting the Sub-Officers Course of National Fire Service College. State Fire Services have their own training centres to cater the training needs of lower level functionaries.

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